

# Tree City USA Workbook

Tree City USA is sponsored by *The National Arbor Day Foundation* in cooperation with the *Missouri Department of Conservation*.





# WELCOME TO *TREE CITY USA!*

Participating in The National Arbor Day Foundation's *Tree City USA (TCUSA)* program represents a strong community commitment to management of your tree and other natural resources. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) strongly believes in this program. We feel it demonstrates commitment to care for publicly owned trees and would like all Missouri communities to achieve certification.

Get on the bandwagon and join 60 other communities in Missouri which have been certified. Each year an average of 5 new communities meet the certification requirements. Your community can be one of these new communities!

To encourage participation, MDC is ready to provide your community with technical and educational assistance to develop a sustainable community forestry program. In addition, our cost share program offers an additional match for any approved project that is within the corporate limits of a currently certified *TCUSA*.

This workbook will help your community achieve certification. It contains step-by-step instructions to walk the "first time" *TCUSA* applicant through the application process. The National Arbor Day Foundation has set four standards for certification. This workbook outlines each. We've also included helpful ideas to make the process as simplistic as possible. The sample application should serve as a guide only.

Please take time to carefully read through the application procedures and attached information. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the MDC Forestry Division at (573) 522-4115 X 3116, or the MDC Forestry Regional Supervisor in your area.

This workbook is adapted from a publication by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife, Nebraska Forest Service.

# WHAT'S INSIDE . . . ?

Applying For TCUSA Certification.....	page 3
TCUSA Qualifying Expenditures.....	page 6
TCUSA Program Ideas.....	page 7
Monthly Reminder Calendar .....	page 8
MDC Region Office Map and Contact List.....	page 9
TCUSA Certification Checklist.....	page 10
TCUSA Growth Award.....	page 11
Blank Worksheets	
Tree Advisory Board.....	page 12
Financial Worksheet.....	page 13
Program Annual Report.....	page 14
Resources.....	page 15
Appendix	
Sample application, Tree Advisory Board Member List, public tree ordinance, Financial Worksheet, Community Forestry Program Annual Report, Arbor Day Proclamation	
Sample Long Range Plan	



# Applying for TCUSA Certification

This workbook is intended to assist your community in successfully completing each of the four standards required by the National Arbor Day Foundation to become a Tree City USA.

Please refer to the enclosed Application as each Standard is discussed. A completed sample of each requirement is provided.

## **STANDARD 1      Tree Board or Department**

List the date of establishment of board, board members, and meeting dates of the past year.

On the sheet titled Tree Advisory Board, provide the following information:

1. Date tree board was established
2. Current tree board members
3. Contact address and phone number
4. Any offices that the members may hold on the board
5. Meeting dates separately or indicate, for example, that you meet the first Monday of every month and a brief description of meeting focus (see sample, Appendix).

## **STANDARD 2      Community Tree Ordinance**

Write in the date your community tree ordinance was established and attach an official copy of the ordinance.

Your community tree ordinance must address how the city will care for public trees. Please see the example included in the Appendix. Ordinances which are tree preservation or tree conservation in nature may not qualify. The focus of the Tree City USA program is to encourage communities to take the best care possible of trees that are directly their responsibility (i.e. road right of ways, parks, city hall, etc.). Tree care responsibilities may be covered in part in other existing ordinances.

## **STANDARD 3      Community Forestry Program with Annual Budget of at Least \$2 Per Capita**

Fill in the total community forestry expenditures for the past year and the current community population. Remember the minimum total expenditure is \$2 per capita (per person). Provide your annual work plan and budget (Financial Worksheet).

- In the space provided on the application, fill in the total community forestry expenditures for the past year and the current population. The TCUSA Qualifying Expenditures section will give you some good ideas on costs to include. Many communities easily surpass the \$2 minimum once all costs are counted. Most communities average more than \$10.00 per capita.
- Complete both sides of the enclosed Financial Worksheet (annual work plan and budget). It is essential that you provide complete and accurate information.

*Hint: Ask the city clerk to assist in breaking down expenditures. You can use expenditures from the past calendar year, fiscal year, or combination of both for completion of this requirement.*

- To aid you in tracking your accomplishment and expenditures throughout the year, we recommend that your Tree Board develop a Mission Statement, an Annual Work Plan, and an Accomplishment Report. These documents will help you figure what projects were actually done and the associated costs. You are required to include a copy of your annual work plan with your application.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** A simple sentence that states, in general terms, what your tree advisory board is trying to accomplish.

**ANNUAL WORK PLAN:** Check off planned activities for the upcoming year. Try to include a variety of projects (i.e. planting, education, social, etc.). Work closely with your MDC Forestry Regional Supervisor or Urban Forester; he/she can provide direction and assistance.

**ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT:** Check off the tasks accomplished during the past year associated with your community forestry program, and add any that are not listed.

- The Accomplishment Report and Annual Work Plan should be reviewed by the tree advisory board yearly. Annual review is part of a proactive plan.

#### **STANDARD 4      Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation**

Fill in the date your community observed Arbor Day. Attach documentation showing the activity was held, complete with a reference to Arbor Day. Attach your Mayor's Arbor Day Proclamation.

*HINT: Make a file of articles and pictures, photo copies, announcements, programs, tree board meeting minutes, etc., that have anything to do with the Arbor Day observance and celebration. Select the best one or two items that show how Arbor Day was planned and celebrated in your community.*

**Signature Required**

The person who is making application (name appears at the top of the page), must sign the application on the line just below Standard 4.

**Mayor or equivalent**

In the space provided, fill in the name of the mayor, city commissioner, or whoever is acting as the leader of your community. A complete address is necessary.

**City Forestry Contact**

In the space provided, fill in the name of the person designated as the community forestry contact. This person can be the: City Forester, Parks Supervisor, Village or Town Maintenance person, Public Works Director, City Manager, volunteer, etc. A complete address is necessary.

- This is not the MDC Forestry Regional Supervisor or Regional Supervisor's assigned assistant.

## TCUSA QUALIFYING EXPENDITURES

### (Certification and Recertification Use)

The following expenses for public tree care (street, parks, cemeteries, etc.) may be counted toward the \$2 per capita requirement of **Standard 3**:

- Administrative time
- Arbor Day program
- Biomass recycling
- City workers' salaries (or percentage thereof if tree care is a portion of their job)
- Computer inventory software
- Contract tree work
- Hazard tree removal
- Equipment maintenance
- Equipment purchases (large equipment can be depreciated over life span)
- Equipment rental (chipper, bucket truck, stump grinder, etc.)
- Tree board salary (most are volunteer, some are paid)
- Insect control
- Insurance
- Leaf & brush pick-up
- Memberships and donations to tree organizations
- Mulching
- Prizes for contests
- Pruning by city employees
- Education materials, brochures, newsletters, etc.
- Tree care conferences and workshops attended by city workers and/or volunteers

- Stump removal
- Survey or inventory expenses
- Fertilizing
- Staking
- Tree purchases and planting
- Watering

**Grant monies** expended by your community for any of these items may be counted. Check with your Forestry Regional Supervisor to see if any MDC grants for planting or management were approved for your community



*At state discretion the following items may also be counted:*

- *volunteer labor/time (at a reasonable and uniformly applied rate) **not to exceed 20% of total expense***
- *donated materials (including trees)*
- *tree pruning by utility (if utility makes a meaningful contribution to the community's urban forestry program) **not to exceed 20% of total expense***



# TCUSA PROGRAM IDEAS

The following list can be used as a source of ideas to enhance your Tree City USA program. Don't limit yourself to the options listed here. Creativity is encouraged.

## Education

School Arbor Day programs - essay or poster contest, plays/skits, tree planting, etc.  
Attend state community forestry conferences  
Participate in MDC Tree Care workshops  
Attend Conference(s) sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation  
Recycling program  
Proper tree planting and/or workshops  
Publications

## Group/Community Activities

Representation at annual TCUSA awards ceremony  
Dedication of TCUSA sign  
Tree Planting Ceremony

## Awareness/Promotion

News media - radio, television, newspaper  
Public meetings  
Community organizations  
Church meetings  
Champion tree program  
Utilize materials from the Missouri Community Forestry Council's Anti Tree Topping Public Service Campaign





## Monthly Reminder Calendar

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Review annual work plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Attend Tree Care Workshop</li> <li>* Call nursery dealer to confirm tree order</li> <li>* Complete Arbor Day Proclamation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Maintenance pruning</li> <li>* Conduct tree care or tree planting workshop for community</li> <li>* Attend Missouri Community Forestry Council Conference</li> </ul>

APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Arbor Day Ceremony with signed Mayor's Arbor Day Proclamation</li> <li>* Tree City USA awards announced</li> <li>* Tree planting workshop for the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Tree planting finished</li> <li>* Begin watering new trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Tree inventory and inspections</li> <li>* Remulch trees planted 2 years ago</li> </ul>

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Public education programs</li> <li>* Plan next year's tree planting</li> <li>* Apply for Missouri Treescape Awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Promote benefits of trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Public school education programs</li> <li>* Pruning/maintenance workshop for city personnel</li> </ul>

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* start work on Tree City USA application</li> <li>* Finalize planting design for next year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Work on Tree City USA application</li> <li>* Order trees for spring planting</li> <li>* Begin Fall tree planting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Finish Tree City USA application and MAIL to the Missouri Dept. of Conservation's Forestry Division Administrator in Jefferson City.</li> </ul>

# Missouri Department of Conservation Regional Offices



## Missouri River Unit

**Central Regional Office**  
1907 Hillcrest Drive  
Columbia 65201  
573/884-6861

**Kansas City Regional Office**  
3424 NW Duncan Road  
Blue Springs 64015  
816/655-6250

**Northeast Regional Office**  
2500 S. Halliburton  
Kirksville 63501  
660/785-2424

**Northwest Regional Office**  
701 NE College Drive  
St. Joseph 64507  
816/271-3100

## Ozark Unit

**Ozark Regional Office**  
P.O. Box 138  
551 Joe Jones Blvd  
West Plains 65575  
417/256-7161

**St. Louis Regional Office/August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area**  
2360 Hwy. D  
St. Charles 63304  
636/441-4554

**Southeast Regional Office**  
2302 County Park Drive  
Cape Girardeau 63701  
573/290-5730

**Southwest Regional Office**  
2630 N. Mayfair  
Springfield 65803  
417/895-6880

## TCUSA CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

**(DO NOT RETURN WITH APPLICATION)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete TCUSA application

- Supply all required information
- Be sure to sign application

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete Financial Worksheet

- City Clerk or equivalent is a good source of information
- Use the list of qualifying expenditures
- Give appropriate consideration to mission statement, accomplishment report, and annual work plan

\_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Adopted Ordinance

- Needs to be signed and dated

\_\_\_\_\_ Documentation of Arbor Day Events

- Copy of Mayor's Arbor Day Proclamation
- Corroboration of the event (news articles, photos, newsletters, meeting announcements, programs, minutes of tree board meeting, etc.)

**Mail application to:**

Forestry Division Administrator  
Missouri Dept. of Conservation  
P.O. Box 180  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**Note:** It is important that your TCUSA application be submitted as soon as possible, the official deadline is December 31 of the year of application. If there is a delay, please call the Missouri Dept. of Conservation Urban Forestry Coordinator at (573) 522-4115 ext 3116 and let us know. We will be glad to assist you with any problems.

# TCUSA Growth Award

Once your community has been certified as a Tree City USA for two consecutive years you may apply for a Tree City USA *Growth Award*.

The Tree City USA Growth Award is designed to recognize quality urban and community forestry programs that are continually growing and improving.

## ***Eligibility***

- ☞ Your community must have been recognized as a Tree City USA for at least 2 consecutive years.
- ☞ Your community must have spent at least as much on its community forestry program this year as it did last.

## ***Application Procedures***

- ☞ Your community must complete activities during the year which total 10 or more points. A list of eligible activities and their eligible points is available in the Tree City USA Growth Award Application.
- ☞ Submit a completed Tree City USA Growth Award Application.

## ***Awards***

- ☞ If your community qualifies you will receive a Tree City USA Growth Award banner for your community entrance signs
- ☞ A plaque with your community name and a Growth banner emblem denoting the year your community received the award
- ☞ Appropriate local and statewide recognition

# **Blank Worksheets**

## **TREE ADVISORY BOARD**

Date Tree Advisory Board was established:\_\_\_\_\_.

### **Member List**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

### **Meeting Dates**

(List meeting dates and brief description below)

## FINANCIAL WORKSHEET

CITY, TOWN, OR VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_.

Please provide the following financial information about your community forestry program. In-kind contributions and private donations are acceptable as are receipts that are deposited into the forestry budget.

SEE LIST OF QUALIFYING EXPENDITURES FOR SPECIFIC EXPENSES.

NOTE: No more than 20% of the total forestry budget may include power line maintenance costs and no more than 20% of the total forestry budget may include volunteer labor.



### **Tree Planting and Initial Care**

Includes plant material, planting, staking, wrapping, watering, mulching, competition control, etc. *Please describe your costs.*

\$



### **Community Forest Management**

Includes public education, professional training, memberships, street and park tree inventory, pest management, fertilization, pruning and all associated costs. *Please describe your costs.*

\$



### **Tree Removals**

All costs associated with tree removals. *Please describe your costs.*

\$



### **Other Activities**

Other undefined costs not already mentioned associated with the community forestry program. *Please describe your costs.*

\$

**TOTAL FORESTRY BUDGET** \$

**POPULATION**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

# COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

Community: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mission Statement for Your Tree Board or Program:

### Accomplishment Report (*past 12 month period*)

*Check all that apply and enter numbers where appropriate. Add any activities not listed*

#### A) Ordinance

\_\_\_\_\_ Adopted/Revised community tree ordinance

\_\_\_\_\_ Adopted/Revised tree preservation ordinance

\_\_\_\_\_ Adopted/Revised tree planting/landscape ordinance

\_\_\_\_\_ Adopted/Revised municipal tree management ordinance

#### B) Education

\_\_\_\_\_ Attended education /training program

\_\_\_\_\_ Attended state community forestry conference

\_\_\_\_\_ Hosted tree care workshop for citizens

\_\_\_\_\_ Hosted an Arbor Day Event

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
(describe)

#### C) Publications

\_\_\_\_\_ Printed educational brochures

\_\_\_\_\_ Created/Revised tree informational brochures

#### D) Tree Planting

\_\_\_\_\_ Number planted on streets

\_\_\_\_\_ Number planted in parks

\_\_\_\_\_ Number planted in other locations

#### E) Tree Removal

\_\_\_\_\_ Number removed dead/dying

\_\_\_\_\_ Number removed hazardous

\_\_\_\_\_ Number removed for other reasons

#### F) Tree Pruning

\_\_\_\_\_ Number pruned

#### G) Volunteers

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Tree Board Meetings Held

\_\_\_\_\_ Average number attended

\_\_\_\_\_ Total number of hours donated by all volunteers to your community forestry program

#### H) Paid Employees

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of people employed by your community who spend greater than 80% of their time managing your community's trees. Title may vary but could include City Forester, City Arborist, Urban Forester, etc.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# RESOURCES

## January 2004

### Magazines, Organizations & Commercial Web Sites

**Arbor Age**  
PO Box 10129  
Riverton NJ 08076-8629  
[www.arborage.com](http://www.arborage.com)

**Grounds Maintenance**  
PO Box 12930  
Overland Park KS  
66282  
<http://www.grounds-mag.com/>

**The National Tree  
Trust**  
[www.nationaltreetrust.org](http://www.nationaltreetrust.org)

**Tree Care Industry**  
The Meeting Place Mall  
PO Box 1094  
Amherst NH 03031-  
9967  
[www.natlarb.com](http://www.natlarb.com)  
(National Arborist  
Association)

**American Forests**  
PO Box 2000  
Washington DC 20013  
<http://www.americanforests.org/>

**Missouri  
Conservationist**  
[www.mdc.mo.gov](http://www.mdc.mo.gov)

**The National Arbor  
Day Foundation**  
[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

**TreeLink**  
[www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org)

**International Society  
of Arboriculture**  
Champaign IL 61826-  
3129  
<http://www2.champaign.isa-arbor.com/>  
*Download publications:*  
*\*Guidelines for  
Developing and  
Evaluating Tree  
Ordinances*

**Society of Municipal  
Arborists**  
P.O. Box 11521  
St. Louis, MO 63105  
Phone: 314-862-3325  
[www.urban-forestry.com/](http://www.urban-forestry.com/)

**Forest ReLeaf of MO**  
<http://www.moreleaf.org>

**Phytosphere Research**  
<http://phytosphere.com>

**The National Urban &  
Community Forestry  
Advisory Council**  
[www.treelink.org/nucfac](http://www.treelink.org/nucfac)

**LGEAN - Local  
Government  
Environmental  
Assistance Network**  
[www.lgean.org](http://www.lgean.org)

### Government Sites **Hazard Tree Web Page**

[www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/hazard/](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/hazard/)

**Plants Database**  
<http://plants.usda.gov/>

**Ohio State University  
Insect & disease Info**  
[www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~ohioline/lines/trees.html#tsg2](http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~ohioline/lines/trees.html#tsg2)

**Woody Plant Seed  
Manual**  
<http://www.wpsm.net/>

**University of Missouri  
-- Columbia --  
Horticulture**  
<http://muextension.missouri.edu/xplor/agguides/hort/index.htm>

**Minnesota Office of  
Environmental  
Assistance**  
Sustainable  
Communities Info  
[www.moea.state.mn.us/sc/index.cfm](http://www.moea.state.mn.us/sc/index.cfm)

**Mobil Community  
Tree Inventory**  
Free tree inventory  
software application  
[www.umass.edu/urbantrce/mcti/](http://www.umass.edu/urbantrce/mcti/)

**Forestry Images**  
Health & mgt images  
<http://www.forestryimages.org/>

# RESOURCES

## January 2004

### **Government Sites (continued)**

#### **U.S. State & Local Gateway**

(sustainable community development)

[http://www.firstgov.gov/Government/State\\_Local.shtml](http://www.firstgov.gov/Government/State_Local.shtml)

#### **USFS NE Area State & Private Forestry**

[www.fs.fed.us/na/](http://www.fs.fed.us/na/)

(download **pubs** at urban & community forestry page select **St. Paul Publications**)

*Publications include:*

- *How to Recognize Hazardous Defects in Trees*
- *How to Prune Trees*
- *Asian Longhorn Beetle*
- *Urban Forestry Laboratory Exercises for Elementary, Middle & High School Students*

#### **Human Dimensions in Urban & Community Forestry**

Outstanding site to help you place dollar value on your community forest

[www.cfr.washington.edu/research.envmind/](http://www.cfr.washington.edu/research.envmind/)

#### **Grant Information The Foundation**

**Center** (sources of grants)

<http://fdncenter.org/>

#### **Council on Foundations**

[www.cof.org](http://www.cof.org)

#### **EPA Grant-Writing Tutorial**

[www.epa.gov/seahome/grants.html](http://www.epa.gov/seahome/grants.html)

#### **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance**

<http://www.cfda.gov/>

### **Books & Bulletins**

#### **Diseases of Trees & Shrubs**

Wayne A. Sinclair,  
Howard H. Lyon &  
Warren T. Johnson.  
1987

Comstock Pub. Assoc.  
Cornell Univ. Press.  
ISBN 0-8014-1517-9

#### **Insects That Feed On Trees & Shrubs**

Warren T. Johnson &  
Howard H. Lyon, 2nd  
Edition Revised  
ISBN 0-8014-2602-2

For a catalog on books of related interest write:  
Advertise & Promo  
Dept, Cornell University  
Press; 124 Roberts Place  
Box 250  
Ithaca, NY 14851-0250

**Tree City USA Bulletin**  
The National Arbor Day  
Foundation  
100 Arbor Avenue  
Nebraska City, NE  
68410

#### **Arboriculture – Integrated Management of Landscape Trees, Shrubs, and Vines**

Richard W. Harris 1999  
Prentice-Hall, Inc.,  
Upper Saddle River, NJ  
07458  
ISBN 0-13-386665-3

#### **American Standard for Nursery Stock**

ANSI Z60.1-1990  
American Asso. of  
Nurserymen Inc  
1250 I St. N.W., Suite  
500  
Washington, D.C. 20005

#### **American National Standard for Tree Care Operations -- Tree, Shrub and Other Woody Plant Maintenance -- Standard Practices ANSI A300-2001**

American National  
Standards Institute  
11 W 42nd Street  
New York, New York  
10036

#### **Manual of Woody Landscape Plants**

Michael A. Dirr  
1997 or latest edition  
Stipes Pub. Co.  
P.O. Box 526  
Champaign, Ill. 61824  
ISBN 0-87563-800-7

# Appendix

# TREE CITY USA Application

Mail completed application with requested attachments to your state forester no later than December 31.  
The TREE CITY USA award is made in recognition of work completed by the city during the calendar year.  
Please provide information for the year ending.

(Some states require information in addition to that requested on this application. Check with your state forester.)

As Mayor of the city Dogwood Bluff,  
(Title -Mayor or other city official)

I herewith make application for this community to be officially recognized and designated as a Tree City USA for 2003,  
having achieved the standards set forth by The National Arbor Day Foundation as noted below. (year)

## Standard 1: A Tree Board or Department

List date of establishment of board, board members, and meeting dates for the past year; or name of city department and manager.

See Attached

## Standard 2: A Community Tree Ordinance

Date ordinance established January 2, 2003  
Attach ordinance.

## Standard 3: A Community Forestry Program with an Annual Budget of at Least \$2 Per Capita

Total community forestry expenditures ..... \$ 3,450  
Community population ..... 1,500

Attach annual work plan outlining the work carried out during the past year. Attach breakdown of community forestry expenditures.

## Standard 4: An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

Date observance was held April 4, 2003

Attach program of activities and/or news coverage. Attach Arbor Day proclamation.

Signature	Title	Date
Please type or print the following:		
<b>Mayor or equivalent</b>		
Name: <u>Susie Cue</u>	Name: <u>Jamie Forester</u>	
Title: <u>Mayor</u>	Title: <u>Community Forester</u>	
Address: <u>111 12<sup>th</sup> Street</u>	Address: <u>111 12<sup>th</sup> Street</u>	
City, State, Zip: <u>Dogwood Bluff, MO 65555</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Dogwood Bluff, MO 65555</u>	
Phone#: <u>444-444-4444</u>	Phone#: <u>444-444-4444</u>	

NOTE: Application will not be processed without Attachments.

## Certification

(To Be Completed By the State Forester)

(Community)

The above named community has made formal application to this office. I am pleased to advise you that we reviewed the application and have concluded that, based on the information contained herein, said community is eligible to be recognized and designated as a Tree City USA, for the \_\_\_\_\_ calendar year, having in my opinion met the four standards of achievement in urban forestry.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

State Forester

Date

### Person in State Forester's Office who should receive recognition material:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ UPS Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

**TREE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**DOGWOOD BLUFF, MISSOURI**

Date Tree Advisory Board was established: March 16, 2003.

**Member List**

Name:	Address:	Phone:
<u>June Berry</u>	<u>247 Hilltop Lane</u>	<u>555-5678</u>
<u>B. "Red" Alder</u>	<u>315 NW Pacific Place</u>	<u>555-5549</u>
<u>Morris White</u>	<u>101 Mulberry Way</u>	<u>555-4545</u>
<u>Magnolia Flowers</u>	<u>413 South Street</u>	<u>555-1234</u>
<u>Robinia Black</u>	<u>635 Locust</u>	<u>555-8978</u>

**Meeting Dates**

(List meeting dates and brief description below)

January 15 - Revised Annual Work Plan

April 7 - Organized Arbor Day Celebration

July 15 - Discussed programming ideas

September 21 - Discussed upcoming events

November 15 - Completed Tree City USA Application

SAMPLE

SAMPLE

## ORDINANCE NO. 1332

### CITY OF DOGWOOD BLUFF, MISSOURI

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE PLANTING, MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL OF TREES, SHRUBS AND OTHER PLANTS UPON CITY PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF DOGWOOD BLUFF, MISSOURI.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DOGWOOD BLUFF, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

#### **Section 1. Definitions**

Street Trees: “Street trees” are defined as trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation on land lying between the property lines on either side of all streets and avenues within the city/village.

Park Trees: “Park trees” are defined as trees, shrubs, bushes, and all other woody vegetation in public parks.

Public Community Forest: “Public community forest” is defined as all street and park trees, and other trees owned by the city as a total resource.

Private Community Forest: “Private community forest” is defined as all trees within municipal boundaries but not owned by the city.

Community Forest Manager: The “community forest manager” is defined as the official (public employee) representative of the Tree Board and as such is responsible for administration of the community forestry program.

#### **Section 2. Purpose**

It is the purpose of this ordinance to promote and protect the public health, safety and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting, maintenance and removal of trees, shrubs and other plants within the City of Dogwood Bluff, Missouri. It is also to manage Dogwood Bluff’s community forest in a strong, healthy condition for today and the future of Dogwood Bluff, Missouri.

#### **Intent:**

It is the intent of the Board of Alderman of the City of Dogwood Bluff that the terms of this ordinance shall be construed so as to promote:

1. The planting, maintenance, restoration and survival of desirable trees, shrubs and other plants within the City. The protection of community residents from personal injury and property damage and the protection of the City of Dogwood Bluff from property damage, caused or threatened by the improper planting, maintenance or removal of trees, shrubs or other plants located within the community.

### **Section 3. Creation and Establishment of a City Tree Board**

There is hereby created and established a City Tree Board for the City of Dogwood Bluff, Missouri, which shall consist of five members, citizens and residents of this city, who shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the City Council. The community forest manager shall be an ex-officio member of the City Tree Board.

### **Section 4. Term of Office**

The term of the five persons to be appointed by the mayor shall be three years except that the term of two of the members appointed to the first board shall be for only one year and the term of two members of the first board shall be for two years. In the event that a vacancy shall occur during the term of any member, a successor shall be appointed for a new three year term.

### **Section 5. Compensation**

Members of the Tree Board shall serve without compensation.

### **Section 6. Duties and Responsibilities**

It shall be the responsibility of the Tree Board to study, investigate, council and develop and/or update annually, and administer written plans (annual and long range) for the care, replacement, maintenance, and removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas. Such a plan will be presented annually to the City Council and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official comprehensive city tree plan for the City of Dogwood Bluff, Missouri.

The Tree Board, when requested by the City Council, shall consider, investigate, make finding, report, and recommend upon any special matter or question relating to trees.

### **Section 7. Operation**

The Tree Board shall choose its own officers, make its own rules and regulations and keep a journal of its proceedings. A majority of the members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

### **Section 8. Street Tree Species to be Planted**

The City of Dogwood Bluff, Missouri shall maintain an extensive list of recommended trees for planting in public areas. The purpose of this listing will be to maintain diversity in the total tree population. This list shall be available to residents of the city upon request to aid in the selection of trees for private and public properties. The list of recommended trees shall be updated periodically by the Community Forest Manager to reflect new developments or species that will affect the population of the community forest.

## **Section 9. Distances and Clearances for Planting**

Street trees may be planted in the tree lawn where this is no less than six feet between the edge of the sidewalk and the curb of the street. Street trees shall be planted no closer than three feet from a sidewalk, driveway, or street.

No street tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet from any street corner, measured from the point of the nearest intersection of curbs or curblines.

No street tree shall be planted closer than 10 feet from any fireplug.

Special permission must be obtained from the community forest manager when planting street trees within 10 feet of any point on a line on the ground immediately below any overhead utility wire.

## **Section 10. Public Tree Care**

The City shall have the right to plant, prune, maintain, and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the rights-of-way or bounds of all streets, alleys, lanes, squares, and public grounds, as may be necessary to insure public safety. All tree pruning and removal will be done in accordance with the most current *ANSI A300 Tree Shrub and Other Woody Plant Maintenance - Standard Practices*.

The City may remove or cause or order to be removed any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to electric power lines or other public improvements, or is seriously affected with any fatal disease,

The abutting property owners shall have the right to perform normal tree care on all street trees.

## **Section 11. Permits Required**

No person shall plant a street tree without first obtaining a permit from the community forest manager. There will be no fee for such permit.

## **Section 12. Compensatory Payments**

No person shall remove any public tree without replacing such tree with a tree or trees of equivalent dollar in the vicinity of the removed tree. The value of trees shall be determined by the community forest manager in accordance with regulations considering the species, location, size and condition of trees adopted by the Tree Board. If not suitable location exists in the vicinity of the tree removed or if the replacement tree is of lesser value, the person causing the tree to be removed shall make a compensatory payment to the city equal to the difference in value between the tree removed and any replacement tree. Such compensatory payment shall be paid into a fund established by the director of finance and used solely for the purpose of enhancing the community forest.



### **Section 13. Tree Topping**

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm, or city department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property. Topping, rounding off or pollarding is defined as the systematic cutting back of limbs within the tree's crown to such a degree as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical may be exempted from this section at the determination of the community forest manager or Tree Board.

### **Section 14. Clearance Over Streets and Walkways**

Clearance over streets and walkways shall be the responsibility of the abutting property owner. A clearance of 8 feet must be maintained over walkways and a clearance of 12 feet must be maintained over streets and alleys. Property owners are responsible for trees on their own property as well as trees on the public right-of-way that abuts their property.

### **Section 15. Dead or Hazard Tree Removal**

The City shall have the right to cause to be removed any tree within the city that is dead or has been declared hazardous. Hazard trees are defined as trees with severe structural defects or splits. The City will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal is the responsibility of the owners of such trees and shall be accomplished within the time limits set by the community forest manager.

### **Section 16. Interference with the Tree Board**

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay, or interfere with the Community Forest Manager, the Tree Board or any of its representatives or agents, while engaging in and about the planting, cultivating, mulching, pruning, spraying, or removing of any trees within the public community forest.

### **Section 17. Enforcement**

The Community Forest Manager is hereby charged with the responsibility for the enforcement of this ordinance and may serve notice to any person, firm, or corporation in violation thereof or institute legal proceedings as may be required and the City Attorney is hereby authorized to institute appropriate proceedings to that end.

### **Section 18. Access**

It shall be unlawful for any person to prevent, delay, or interfere with access to private property by the city or its representative in the legal performance of any section of this ordinance.

### **Section 19. Penalty**

Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision or fails to comply with any notice issued pursuant to the provisions of this ordinance, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the city or county jail for a term not exceeding ninety (90) days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

## **Section 20. Arborist Certification and Insurance**

Persons or firms engaged in the business or occupation of pruning, treating, or removing any street tree, park tree or other privately owned tree should be recognized by the International Society of Arboriculture as a Certified Arborist or Certified Tree Worker. All persons or firms must carry evidence of liability insurance and workmen's compensation. No certification shall be required by any public employee doing such work in the pursuit of their public service endeavors.

## **Section 21. When Operative**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication according to law.

ADOPTED AND PASSED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dogwood Bluff, Greenwood County, Missouri, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

## FINANCIAL WORKSHEET

CITY, TOWN, OR VILLAGE: Dogwood Bluff

Please provide the following financial information about your community forestry program. In-kind contributions and private donations are acceptable as are receipts that are deposited into the forestry budget.

SEE LIST OF QUALIFYING EXPENDITURES FOR SPECIFIC EXPENSES.

NOTE: No more than 20% of the total forestry budget may include power line maintenance costs and no more than 20% of the total forestry budget may include volunteer labor.

**V. Tree Planting and Initial Care**

Includes plant material, planting, staking, wrapping, watering, mulching, competition control, etc.

\$ 1,275

**VI. Community Forest Management**

Includes public education, professional training, memberships, street and park tree inventory, pest management, fertilization, pruning and all associated costs.

\$ 535

**VII. Tree Removals**

All costs associated with tree removals

\$ 1,640

**VIII. Other Activities**

Other undefined costs not already mentioned associated with the community forestry program.

\$ 0

**TOTAL FORESTRY BUDGET** \$ 3,450

**POPULATION** 1,500

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**Community: Dogwood Bluff**

**Mission Statement for Your Tree Board or Program:**

**Accomplishment Report (past 12 month period)**

*Check all that apply and enter numbers where appropriate. Add any activities not listed*

**A) Ordinance**

☐ Adopted/Revised community tree ordinance  
☐ Adopted/Revised tree preservation ordinance  
☐ Adopted/Revised tree planting/landscape ordinance  
☐ Adopted/Revised municipal tree management ordinance

**B) Education**

☒ Attended education /training program  
☒ Attended state community forestry conference  
☐ Hosted tree care workshop for citizens  
☒ Hosted an Arbor Day Event  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
(describe)

**C) Publications**

☐ Printed educational brochures  
☐ Created/Revised tree informational brochures

**D) Tree Planting**

29 Number planted on streets  
100 Number planted in parks  
☐ Number planted in other locations

**E) Tree Removal**

☐ Number removed dead/dying  
4 Number removed hazardous  
☐ Number removed for other reasons

**F) Tree Pruning**

250 Number pruned

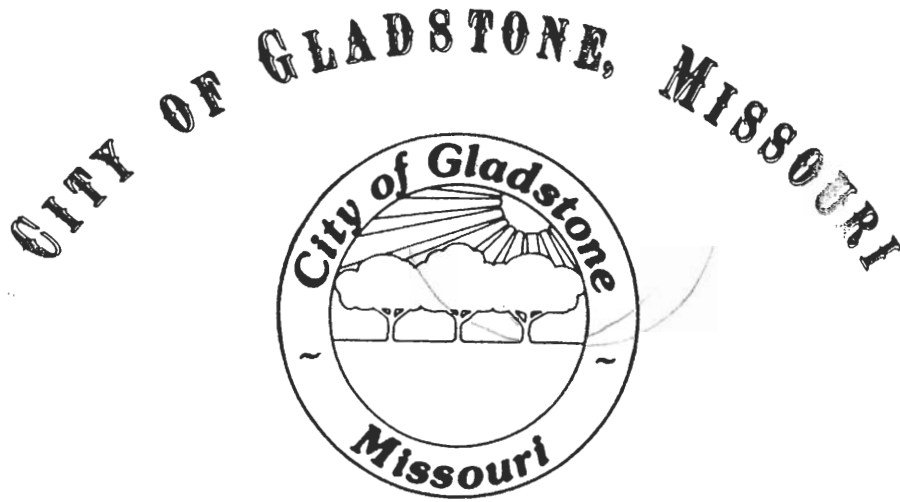
**G) Volunteers**

6 Number of Tree Board Meetings Held  
6 Average number attended  
400 Total number of hours donated by all volunteers to your community forestry program

**H) Paid Employees**

0 Number of people employed by your community who spend greater than 80% of their time managing your community's trees. Title may vary but could include City Forester, City Arborist, Urban Forester, etc.

**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR

**WHEREAS**, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton first proposed that a special commemorative day be officially established for the planting of trees and in 1970, the United States Congress set aside a special day to acknowledge mankind's responsibility to the natural environment; and

**WHEREAS**, these holidays, now designated as Arbor Day and Earth Day, are observed nationally on an annual basis during the month of April; and

**WHEREAS**, trees and the natural environment serve to assist in the moderation of temperature, help provide the clean air we breathe, produce oxygen and habitat for wildlife, and provide a source of joy, beauty, and spiritual renewal for the community; and

**WHEREAS**, trees and proper care for our Gladstone environment serve to increase property values, enhance the vitality of business areas, and serve to beautify our surroundings;

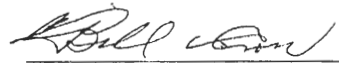
**NOW, THEREFORE, I BILL CROSS**, Mayor of the City of Gladstone, Missouri, on behalf of the members of the Gladstone City Council encourage our citizens to support efforts that focus upon environmental betterment and the planting of trees and proclaim Friday, April 4th, 2003 as:

### ***ARBOR DAY***

in Gladstone, Missouri and urge all citizens to participate in recognition of this observance.



Signed this 24<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2003,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Bill Cross

# **City of Dogwood Bluff Tree Management Plan Initial Plan 2004**

## **Introduction**

The City of Dogwood Bluff has had a Tree Planting Committee since 1986. In 1998, this committee was formally changed to the Dogwood Bluff Tree Board when the city's tree ordinance was passed as part of an effort to improve the health of Dogwood Bluff's trees and to qualify as a Tree City USA. This plan is part of those continuing efforts. The plan includes inventory, high risk tree assessment and removal or pruning, routine pruning according to ANSI A300 specification, training of city employees and volunteers, and tree planting.

## **Inventory**

The basis for a good community tree management plan is good data about the community's trees. Dogwood Bluff's street and park trees will be inventoried over a four year period by a professional forester and volunteers. Main Street and First Street divide the City into quadrants. The northwest quadrant will be inventoried first, then the northeast, then the southeast, and finally the southwest. The inventory will be comprehensive and will include data about tree species, size, condition, maintenance needs and priority, and location. High-risk trees will be assigned the highest priority for maintenance. The locations will be mapped into the City's Geographic Information System. A professional forester will coordinate the inventory and will train volunteers to help carry out the inventory. City personnel will assist with mapping, data base set-up, data entry, and inventory so that the data will be most useful to the people who use it most.

## **Tree Maintenance**

Inventory data will be used to schedule high-risk tree maintenance (removal or pruning) first, then routine tree maintenance for each quadrant in the year of and the year following the inventory. It is expected that with additional training, city crews will be able to complete most of the routine maintenance as well as some of the high-risk tree pruning and removal. There will undoubtedly be a need to contract with an arborist for work that is beyond the capabilities of city crews and equipment, but only the most rudimentary of estimates will be available until the first phase of the inventory is complete.

## **Training**

The city will contract with a professional forester or arborist to provide pruning training using ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) materials. In future years, training in other aspects of tree care will be provided, and at least one crewmember will be encouraged to become a certified arborist.

## **Tree Planting**

Tree planting efforts will be concentrated on the newly developed West Park for the next two or three years. The Parks and Recreation Department has a planting plan that can be divided into phases for this purpose. Future street right-of-way planting plans will follow the inventory, and will be based on identified potential planting spaces.

## Implementation Schedule

### 2004-2005

- Inventory northwest quarter of city. (Tree board, consultant, volunteers)
- Complete pruning training for city public works crews. (Consultant, Public Works)
- Complete high priority tree maintenance in the northwest quarter. (Public Works)
- Plant 100 trees at West Park. (Tree Board, volunteers)

### 2005-2006

- Inventory northeast quarter of city. (Tree Board, consultant, volunteers)
- Complete high priority tree maintenance in the northeast quarter. (Public Works)
- Complete routine tree maintenance work in the northwest quarter. (City)
- Plant 50 – 100 trees at West Park. (Tree Board, volunteers)
- Remulch and inspect first trees planted at West Park. (Tree Board, volunteers)

### 2006-2007

- Inventory southeast quarter of city. (Tree Board, consultant, volunteers)
- Complete high priority maintenance in the southeast quarter. (Public Works)
- Complete routine maintenance in the northeast quarter. (Public Works)
- Plant 50 trees at West Park. (Tree Board, volunteers)
- Remulch/inspect first & second trees planted at West Park. (Tree Board, volunteers)

### 2007-2008

- Inventory southwest quarter of city. (Tree Board, consultant, volunteers)
- Complete high priority maintenance in the southwest quarter. (Public Works)
- Complete routine maintenance in the southeast quarter. (Public Works)
- Remulch, inspect, replant as needed, all West Park trees. (Tree Board, volunteers)

### 2008-2009

- Complete any delayed high priority maintenance. (Public Works)
- Complete routine maintenance in southeast quarter. (Public Works)
- Choose a planting project based on inventory information. (Tree Board, volunteers)

### 2009-2010

- Review this plan, begin inventory cycle again, review routine maintenance schedule, choose planting project. (Tree Board, Public Works, volunteers)